IN THE SPECIFICAITON:

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: At page 1, line 11, "fluorescent" is misspelled. At page 2, line 19 and 25 "chlorobenzoxazole" is misspelled. At page 2, line 26, "oC" should be re-written as °C.

The present invention is directed to a novel method for derivatizing amino acids or peptides, which method comprises reacting an amino acid or peptide with a ~~fluorecent~~ fluorescent benzoxazole derivative, such as 2-chlorobenzoxazole.

An aqueous solution of 0.1-5% sodium acetate tri-hydrate (w/v) was prepared first. Fifty uL of this solution is mixed with 1.0 mL of methanol. 2-~~Chlorobezoxazole~~ Chlorobenzoxazole (10-50 uL) was mixed with methanol-sodium acetate solution.

Derivatization of amino acids

Amino acid standards (1.0 nmol each from Pierce) in 50 uL of buffer (for e.g. 0.25 M sodium carbonate) was mixed with 100 uL of the above 2-~~chlorobezoxazole~~ chlorobenzoxazole solution for derivatization. The reaction was allowed to continue typically at 80 ~~oC~~ °C for 10-60 min. After the reaction, the samples were diluted with sodium acetate solution and an aliquot was injected onto HPLC for analysis.